

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

In view of the Examiner having made the restriction requirement final, patentably distinct non-elected claims 10-15 have now been simply cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter at claims 2-6 is appreciatively noted. These claims have now been amended to self-standing independent format and are thus assumed to be in fully allowed status.

Attention is drawn to new claims 16-21. These claims are believed to be within the elected subject matter and are directed towards reduction in the number of times required for data entry (writing) access to the non-volatile memory. For example, as in the exemplary embodiment of Figure 4, a continuous storage object data is stored only in a RAM (normal or standby) until it changes by a maximum change value N. Only then is it written to a non-volatile memory – thus reducing the number of times data must be written to the non-volatile memory.

New dependent claims 17-21 add yet further patentable distinction to the claimed invention.

Accordingly, for the same reason that claims 2-6 have already been found allowable, it is believed that new claims 16-21 are also allowable.

The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being made “obvious” based on Christeson ‘522 in view of Hill ‘083 is respectfully traversed. However, since this claim has been cancelled above without prejudice or disclaimer to speed allowance of this present application, such ground of rejection has been mooted and it is therefore not believed necessary to explain the reasons for such traversal at this time.

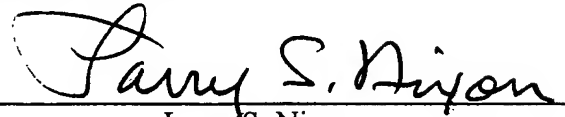
OKADA
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Accordingly, this entire application is now believed to be in allowable condition and a formal Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Larry S. Nixon", written over a horizontal line.

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